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LOUTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

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Annual Report  
of the  
Medical Officer  
of Health  
1962







B O R O U G H   O F   L O U T H

1962

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Chairman of the Council:  
MAYOR

Councillor ARTHUR McNEANEY, J.P.

DEPUTY MAYOR

Councillor WILLIE ROBERT CECIL SIMPSON, J.P.

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PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman:

Councillor P. FELL

Vice-Chairman:

Councillor R. CROSS

Alderman W. R. Burr

Alderman P. J. T. Haxby

Councillor G. Coleman

Councillor Miss A. E. Hardy

Councillor F. W. Hutchinson

Councillor N. J. Nicholson

Councillor W. Patchett

Councillor A. Hedley Warr

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HOUSING AND SLUM CLEARANCE COMMITTEE

Chairman:

Councillor MISS A. E. HARDY

Vice-Chairman:

Alderman J. H. STARSMORE

Alderman P. J. T. Haxby

Councillor R. S. Dales

Councillor P. Fell

Councillor F. W. Hutchinson

Councillor F. R. Macdonald

Councillor C. H. Paul

Councillor A. Hedley Warr

Councillor R. Wilkinson

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WALTER HOLT, LL.M.,  
Solicitor  
Town Clerk.



TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE  
BOROUGH OF LOUTH

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1962.

The health of the Borough was maintained at a satisfactory level throughout the year, there being no departure from the normal course of events. Births and deaths remain about the same from year to year and no abnormal increase in infectious disease occurred.

Housing.

Improvement in the housing conditions continues in the Borough, but there is still a good deal to be done. There is a considerable proportion of elderly people and their needs are being carefully considered. Their family having grown up and left home, a large house can be an embarrassment due to the amount of work in keeping it clean. A small compact dwelling, easily cleaned and economically heated is ideal and such dwellings have been built in the town centre. There will probably be a considerable demand for this type of dwelling in the future as there is a tendency for the "aged" population to increase beyond its present proportion of the population. Sites for these houses should be sought near the town centre for convenience of shops and transport.

Many substandard houses can be considerably improved where the structure itself is reasonably sound, by supplying bathrooms, hot water supply, food stores and indoor toilets and some or all of which are not to be found in many houses. These houses should then be fit for comfortable habitation for another 15-20 years.

Food Inspection.

A constant watch is kept to ensure the purity of food stuffs. Samples are frequently taken of a variety of foods including ice cream. Retailers and producers are very co-operative to ensure that the public receive food of high quality and purity.

Meat inspection is taking up an increasing amount of the health inspectors time and a very high standard is required. Many retailers are using deep freeze cabinets to keep the food stuffs fresh, but there is still room for improvement where food is left uncovered in shops and liable to contamination by dust and flies. An effort was made to persuade shop keepers to request customers not to bring dogs into food shops and it is hoped an increasing number will comply with this request.

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I should like to express my appreciation of the interest taken in the work of the Health Department, by the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

I should like to thank the Public Health Inspectors and Officers of other Departments, together with their staffs for their loyal support and co-operation throughout the year.

I remain,  
Your obedient servant,  
G. R. THORPE.  
Medical Officer of Health.



# BOROUGH OF LOUTH

## PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS:

Medical Officer of Health :  
G.R. THORPE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Senior Public Health Inspector :  
J.A.H. BROCKLEBANK, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Public Health Inspector :  
E.H. LAND, M.A.P.H.I.

Pupil Public Health Inspector :  
B.K. OVERTON :  
(appointed 3rd December, 1962)

Surveyor :  
J.C. BARBER, A.M.Inst.M., & CyE.

Housing Manager :  
L. COPLAND, A.I.Hsg.

## SECTION A

### Social Conditions and General Statistics

Area of Borough in Acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,812
Registrar General's estimated mid year Home Population	...	...	...	...	...	...	11,390
Density per acre	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.05
Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1962	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,500
Rateable Value of inhabited houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	£78,500
Product of Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£595

## VITAL STATISTICS

(Note - Figures in brackets show corresponding rates for England and Wales).

### BIRTHS

(a) <u>Live</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	191	96	95
Illegitimate	1	-	1
	<u>192</u>	<u>96</u>	<u>96</u>
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated population	16.8		
Standardised Birth Rate for comparative purposes (Comparability factor 1.03)	17.3 (18.0)		
Illegitimate Live Births (per cent of total live births)	0.52		



(b) Still Birth  
 Legitimate  
 Illegitimate

<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
3	2	1
-	-	-
<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated population 0.26  
 Still Birth Rate per 1,000 (Live and Still) Births 15.4 (18.1)  
 Total Live and Still Births:- 195

#### DEATHS

<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
173	75	98

Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated population 15.18  
 Standardised Death Rate (Comparability factor 0.84) 12.7 (11.9)

#### Infant Deaths

(a) Under 12 months  
 Legitimate  
 Illegitimate

<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
1	2
-	-

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Total Live Births 15.62 (21.6)  
 Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Legitimate Births 15.7  
 Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Illegitimate Births Nil

(b) Under 4 weeks  
 Legitimate  
 Illegitimate

<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
1	2
-	-

Neo-natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births 15.6 (15.1)

(c) Under 1 week  
 Legitimate  
 Illegitimate

<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
1	2
-	-

Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate for 1,000 total Live Births 15.6  
 Perinatal Mortality Rate (Still Births and Deaths under  
 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths) 30.8 (30.8)  
 Maternal Deaths (including abortion) Nil

#### Infant Deaths - Causes of and Ages at Death.

	<u>Age.</u>
Prematurity .....	1 day
Prematurity .....	3 days
Cerebral haemorrhage).....	1 day
Tentorial Tear )	

<u>Causes of Death</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
1. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	-	1
2. Tuberculosis - Other	-	-
3. Meningococcal Infections	-	-
4. Other Infective and Parasitic diseases	1	-
5. Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	3	2
6. Malignant Neoplasm - Lung, Bronchus	4	-
7. Malignant Neoplasm - Breast	-	2
8. Malignant Neoplasm - Uterus	-	1
9. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	9	11
10. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-
11. Diabetes	1	2
12. Vascular lesions of nervous system	8	12
13. Coronary disease, angina	16	9
14. Hypertension with heart disease	1	-
15. Other heart disease	5	21
16. Other circulatory disease	8	11
17. Influenza	-	1
18. Pneumonia	3	6
19. Bronchitis	2	1
20. Other diseases of respiratory system	-	4
21. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	-
22. Hyperpasia of prostate	1	-
23. Congenital Malformations	-	-
24. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	6	12
25. Motor vehicle accidents	2	-
26. All other accidents	2	-
27. Suicide	1	-
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	1
29. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	-	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	75	98

Table 1. Ages at Death for 1962

Ages in Years	0/1	1/5	5/15	15/25	25/35	35/45	45/50	50/55	55/60	60/65	65/70	70/75	75+
Deaths	3	-	2	1	-	3	2	6	8	9	16	28	95

#### Anatomical Sites of Malignant Neoplasms.

<u>Site</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Stomach	3	2	5
Lung, Bronchus	4	2	6
Breast	-	-	-
Uterus	-	1	1
Other Sites	9	11	20
	<hr/> 16	<hr/> 16	<hr/> 32

One hundred and ninety two births occurred during 1962, 7 more than in the previous year. Three still births took place.

The birth rate was a little lower than the average for the country as a whole.

#### Causes of Death

One hundred and seventy three deaths were notified during 1962, an increase of 14 over 1961 figures. A little higher than the average for the country as a whole. Thirty two deaths were recorded due to malignant growth in various sites in the body. This is an increase of 10 when compared with 1961. Fewer deaths were due to Coronary disease, and 4 deaths were due to Lung Cancer.

Accidents accounted for 4 deaths, 2 of these involving motor vehicles.

## SECTION B

### GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

#### Laboratory Facilities.

Once again I should like to thank Dr. J. M. Croll of the Public Health Laboratory Service at Lincoln for kindly reporting on the various samples which are sent to him for analysis.

#### TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS

The following Clinic services are provided by the County Council and the Regional Hospital Board towards meeting local needs in the preventive and treatment branches of medicine.

#### A - Clinics at the County Council's premises, 32 Queen Street, Louth School Children:

Each Wednesday 2 to 4 p.m.

Diphtheria and Combined Immunisations.

#### Child Welfare:

##### (1) Child Welfare.

Each Tuesday 2 to 4 p.m.

(Doctor attends 2nd and 4th Tuesday  
10.0 a.m.

Tuesdays (2nd & 4th) 10 a.m. to 12 noon

2nd & 4th Tuesdays 2 p.m.

##### (2) Toddlers

##### (3) Diphtheria & Combined Immunisations

Ante-natal Mothercraft and  
Relaxation.

Dental:

Speech Therapy:

Chiropody:

Welfare Foods:

Each Thursday 2.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.  
By Appointment.

Mondays 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Alternate Fridays 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Each Tuesday 2 to 4 p.m.



B - At the Local Hospitals:

County Hospital, Louth  
Out Patient Clinics

Ophthalmology - Monday 10 a.m.  
 Ear, Nose and Throat - Monday 2.30 p.m.  
 Ante-natal - Monday 2.30 p.m.  
 Dental - Monday 3 p.m.  
 Genito-Urinary - Monday 11.30 a.m.  
 Psychiatry - Tuesday 9.30 a.m.  
 Surgical - Tuesday 2.30 p.m. and  
                     Friday 2.30 p.m.  
 Chest - Wednesday 9. a.m.  
 Paediatric - Wednesday 2 p.m. (The  
                     1st Wednesday in each month  
                     at 10 a.m.)  
 Orthopaedic - Wednesday 9.30 a.m.  
                     and Friday 9.30 a.m.  
 Radiotherapy - Alternate Thursdays 11 a.m.  
 Gynaecology - Thursdays 2 p.m.  
 Venereology - Thursdays 2 p.m.  
 Medical - Thursdays 10 a.m. and  
                     Fridays 10 a.m.  
 Dermatology - Fridays 2 p.m.  
 Radiology - Tuesday and Thursday  
 School Children's  
     Eye Clinic - 1st and 3rd Tuesday 10. a.m.

Louth & District Hospital  
Out Patient Clinics

Monday 2.30 p.m. &  
 Thursday 10.30 a.m.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND  
 OTHER DISEASES

Infectious Diseases other than Tuberculosis during 1962.

Disease	Cases Notified	Case rates per 1,000 of estimated population
Measles	10	.87
Scarlet Fever	1	.087
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	*10.25
Total	13	* per 1,000(Live and Still Births)

PROPHYLAXIS MEASURES AGAINST DIPHTHERIA,  
WHOOPING COUGH, SMALLPOX AND TETANUS.

(a) Diphtheria Immunisation.

Under 5 Years	5-14 years	Booster Doses
-	-	106

(b) Form of Prophylaxis.

Age in years	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5 to 9	10 to 14	Total
Diphtheria and Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria, Tetanus and Whooping Cough	53	82	4	4	1	17	-	161
Diphtheria and Tetanus	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough and Tetanus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	53	82	4	4	2	18	-	163

(c) Smallpox

	0/1	1/4	5/14	15+	Total
Vaccination	93	52	86	176	412
Re-Vaccination	-	9	31	152	192

(d) Tetanus

	0/1	1/4	5/14	15+	Total
Vaccination	-	-	21	5	26
Booster	-	-	-	-	-

# Vaccinations against Poliomyelitis.

I am grateful to Dr. C. D. Cormac, County Medical Officer of Health, for supplying the undermentioned figures relating to poliomyelitis vaccinations carried out during 1962.

## Salk Vaccine

Had 2 injections	Persons born in the years				
	62	61	60 - 43	42 - 33	Others
	19	58	30	10	28

Had 3 injections	Persons born in the years				
	62	61	60 - 43	42 - 33	Others
	50	88	59	165	

Had 4 injections	Persons born in the years				
	62	61	60 - 43	42 - 33	Others
	46				

## Oral Vaccine

Initial course of 3 oral doses	Persons born in the years				
	62	61	60 - 43	42 - 33	Others
	9	30	38	16	27

3rd oral after 2 salk injections	Persons born in the years				
	62	61	60 - 43	42 - 33	Others
	29	71	24	81	

4th oral after 3 salk injections	Persons born in the years				
	62	61	60 - 43	42 - 33	Others
	209				



Tuberculosis: New Cases and Mortality during 1962.

Age	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-1 years	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
1-5 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-15 "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-25 "	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
25-35 "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35-45 "	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55-65 "	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65+	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-

Six new cases of Tuberculosis were notified in 1962 including one case of Tuberculosis Meningitis. One death from tuberculosis of the lung was notified.

Medical Inspection of School Children.

During 1962, Medical Examination of 847 children in the Borough schools was carried out. An additional 731 children were seen because of some defect found at previous examinations. One of the commonest defects discovered is defective vision including squint. It is often very difficult to persuade the children with eye complaints to wear their glasses regularly. The glasses are frequently being broken during play and often a long delay occurs before the parents obtain replacements.

Foot complaints are also fairly common and probably aggravated by wearing unsuitable shoes, which cramp the toes and do not give proper support to the feet.

Children were also examined for fitness for part-time employment while still at school. Such work consists of delivery of newspapers, acting as shop assistants and as errand boys. The hours of work are limited and a certificate is given to those who are physically fit.

## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Mr. Brocklebank, the Senior Public Health Inspector, has kindly given a more detailed report under this heading.

### Water Supply.

The samples of water taken regularly from the public water supply throughout the year were all reported to be satisfactory after bacteriological examination. Thus the improvements in quality and safety which were noted after the completion of the new reservoir in November, 1961, have been maintained.

Work on the softening and filtration plant at the Raithby pumping station has continued and it is expected that it will be in operation by May, 1963. The Borough Surveyor reports as follows:-

#### Public Water Supply

"Work is proceeding on the erection of the purification and water softening plant which will not now become operational until May 1963.

A 6" dia. water main has been laid from Fanthorpe Lane to the northern Borough Boundary at Cordeaux Corner, which will form an interconnection between the Borough and the Louth R.D.C. supplies systems, in addition to improving the supplies on the Grimsby Road.

Schemes are also in preparation for new mains in Fanthorpe Lane, Brackenborough Road and Monks' Dyke Road to improve supplies and provide better connections and control."

#### Sewerage

"There is little to report on the scheme for the new outfall sewer and extension to the disposal works. An informal enquiry has been held and the Ministry has now informed the Council of the flows of sewage to be both fully and partially treated. The preparation of the scheme is now in progress. The 21" dia. surface water sewer from North Holme Road to the Eelmire drain in Keddington Road has been laid, involving 'thrust boring' under the railway at the Keddington Road level crossing to obviate delays to train services."

#### Swimming Baths

The Corporation Swimming Bath in Maiden Row, and two school swimming baths were in use during the summer. Thanks to adequate chlorination all the reports on samples of water taken from the baths were satisfactory.

### Food Control.

Routine inspection of retail food premises and warehouses is regularly carried out throughout the year in addition to meat inspection in slaughterhouses.

The most note worthy improvement completed during the year was the re-equipment and in some cases, the partial reconstruction of the slaughterhouses in the district to secure their compliance with present day standards.

### Milk and Ice Cream Samples.

All the milk and ice cream samples taken were satisfactory.

### Housing

Twenty new houses were built by the Council in 1962 and were used to provide accommodation for some of the families who were living in unfit houses.

Twenty three other houses, twelve in a Clearance Area and eleven individual houses, were declared unfit. Thus the building programme is scarcely keeping pace with the wastage of old houses.

A block of twenty flats for elderly people is being built and may be completed during 1963.

The Council should continue with a steady house building programme so that the replacement of unfit houses can continue without interruption.



## REPORT OF SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR 1962.

Dr. Thorpe has asked me to submit a more detailed report on the environmental services for the year 1962, which is given below.

### (1) Water Sampling

#### Public Supply

Total number of samples taken for bacteriological examination .....	110
Number of samples declared satisfactory .....	110

#### Private Supplies

Total number of samples taken .....	6
Number of samples declared satisfactory .....	4
Number of samples declared unsatisfactory .....	2

#### Swimming Baths

Total number of samples taken .....	19
Number of samples declared satisfactory .....	19

### (2) Provision of Internal Water Supplies.

Work continued during the year on the installation of internal water supplies to suitable houses. At the end of the year 125 houses remained without an internal supply. Of these, 40 are small houses where the owner/occupiers do not wish to have a supply installed, 52 are houses likely to be dealt with under the Housing Acts in the fairly near future, and in 33 cases, orders for the work have been given but not yet carried out.

### (3) Food Control

#### Inspection of premises.

Two hundred and forty-three inspections of food premises were made during the year and 17 minor contraventions of the regulations were dealt with during the visits.

The condition of the sales area of most food shops is satisfactory, but improvement of storage and preparation space is often hampered by the congested yards and buildings at the rear.

#### Milk Sampling.

Pasteurised milk - No. of samples taken .....	28
Number of samples declared satisfactory .....	28

#### Ice Cream Sampling

Total number of samples taken .....	16
Number of samples placed in grade 1 .....	16

# MEAT INSPECTION

## Carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	2104	273	108	12333	12191	-
Number inspected	2104	273	108	12333	12191	-
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci Whole carcasses condemned	8	14	20	91	54	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	127	52	4	161	1646	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	6.4	24.17	22.2	2.04	13.9	-
Tuberculosis only Whole carcasses condemned	1	1	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1	-	-	-	112	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	.09	.37	-	-	.9	-
Cysticercosis Carcases of which some part or organs was condemned	18	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	18	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

The increase in the number of animals slaughtered during 1962 as compared with the number slaughtered in 1961, is due to a slight expansion in the local wholesale meat trade during the year.

### Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations.

The "appointed day" by which the seven slaughterhouses in the Borough were required to be made to comply with the whole of the above regulations was 1st April, 1962.

By this date all the main structural alterations and improvements had been carried out. Certain items of equipment were not present in some cases, but were provided later in the year.

Extensive works were carried out at four slaughterhouses which included the following items; a complete new slaughterhall in one case, new hanging space for carcasses in two cases and improvement of hanging space in a third case; new lairage in one case and extension of lairage in another; new stunning pens were provided and general improvement to ancillary buildings and services were carried out in all cases.

### (4) Housing.

#### Inspection of dwellinghouses.

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| 1. Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects<br>(under Public Health or Housing Acts) ..... | 91  |
| 2. Number of inspections made for purpose .....  | 383 |
- (In addition, 299 visits were made to dwellinghouses in connection with the provision of internal water supplies)

#### Remedy of Defects without service of formal notice.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Number of dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal<br>action by local authority or their officers ..... | 8 |
|--|---|

#### Slum Clearance - Procedure under Housing Acts.

- |  |    |
|--|----|
| 1. Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which demolition orders were<br>made       | 1  |
| 2. Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders             | 3  |
| 3. Number of dwellinghouses or parts subject to Closing Orders .....                 | 10 |
| 4. Number of dwellinghouses or parts rendered fit by undertakings .....              | 2  |
| 5. Number of dwellinghouses included in confirmed Clearance Orders .....             | 13 |
| 6. Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of confirmed Clearance<br>Orders | 33 |



## Housing Acts 1949-59 - Improvement Grants.

1. Standard grants	(a) Applications received .....	12
	(b) Dwellings subject to grant .....	7
2. Discretionary grants	(a) Applications received .....	5
	(b) Dwellings subject to grant .....	2

While the provision of twenty new Council houses during the year enabled a number of families living in unfit houses to be rehoused, more houses are urgently needed to accommodate families living in houses which are the subject of confirmed Clearance Orders or where Demolition or Closing Orders have been made.

The condition of these houses is deteriorating rapidly and every effort should be made to provide other accommodation as soon as possible.

### (5) Refuse Collection, Nuisances, Rodent Control.

#### Refuse Collection and Disposal.

A regular weekly collection of refuse was maintained during the year. The construction of a high level road was commenced at the London Road tip to enable another layer of refuse to be deposited. It is estimated that this will enable this site to be used for refuse disposal for another six years.

#### Nuisances.

Details of nuisances which were abated informally during the year are shown in the table below:-

Refuse .....	10
Foul ditches, ponds etc. ....	1
Drainage .....	32
Poultry and animals .....	1
Miscellaneous .....	11

#### Rodent Control.

One hundred and eighteen infested dwellinghouses and 72 other infested premises were treated by the rodent operative during the year. The rat infested parts of the sewerage system were treated twice during the year.

Following the heavy infestations of agricultural land which occurred during the Autumn of 1961, detailed surveys of farms and farm buildings in the Borough were carried out in the Spring and Autumn. Fortunately the heavy infestation of these premises did not recur during 1962 and infestations generally have been lighter than in the previous year.



(6) Factories Act.

1. Inspections.

	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2, 3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	14	3	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	86	25	4	-
(iii) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	1	-	-	-
TOTAL	101	28	4	-

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)- (a) Insufficient	1	1	-	1	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	3	-	3	-
TOTAL	4	4	-	4	-

J. BROCKLEBANK  
Senior Public Health Inspector.

To : The Mayor, Aldermen & Councillors of the Borough of Louth.

The Medical Officer of Health has requested me to comment on the rehousing aspect of the Slum Clearance Programme and I am pleased to have the opportunity of doing so.

During the year, 45 casual vacancies occurred and 20 new dwellings were completed on the Eastfield Road Estate; making a total of 65 dwellings available for letting.

Some 33 transfers and exchanges were carried out, so that the total number of changes of tenancy was 98 within the year. The policy of encouraging such transfers is of great assistance in providing a full range of dwellings suitable for all types of Slum Clearance families.

Although only 20 new dwellings were completed, 27 Slum Clearance families were rehoused, but in view of the additional delays in the building programme the number of Slum Clearance families awaiting rehousing has increased and amounted to 61 at the end of the year.

The only development in hand at present is on the grouped welfare scheme in Maiden Row which will provide 20 flats suitable for aged, or infirm, persons in need of a small amount of supervision. A warden will be appointed to supervise and will reside in the flat provided and maintain daily contact with the residents and will be available to be summoned by bell in an emergency.

The number of families remaining in declared Slum Clearance areas is likely to increase for the third successive year if the present rate of representations to Slum Clearance areas and individual unfit houses is maintained.

The Housing Waiting List numbered 170 families at the end of the year, of which 52 applications are more than two years old. Casual vacancies have occurred at the rate of under 40 per year for the past four years and with the many demands for rehousing it is likely that many applicants and Slum Clearance families will wait for another two years at least.

It is, therefore, essential for the Council to see that building operations on the North Holme Road site commence as soon as possible, and that houses are completed for occupation in the shortest possible time, in order to alleviate some of the hardship experienced by families living in sub-standard and similar accommodation. In the same way, any sites which become available near the centre of the town and which are suitable for redevelopment should be used for the provision of accommodation suitable for ageing persons. The demand for such accommodation has increased and will increase still further with the expected proportional increase in the number of aged persons.

L. COPLAND  
Housing Manager.







